

Hearing Date and Time: June 20, 2007 10:00 a.m.  
Fee Committee Objection Deadline: June 13, 2007 4:00 p.m.

**COVINGTON & BURLING LLP**

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UNITED STATES BANKRUPTCY COURT  
SOUTHERN DISTRICT OF NEW YORK

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In re	:	Chapter 11
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DELPHI CORPORATION, <u>et al.</u> ,	:	Case No. 05-44481 (RDD)
	:	
Debtors.	:	(Jointly Administered)
	:	
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**FOURTH INTERIM APPLICATION OF COVINGTON & BURLING LLP,  
FOREIGN TRADE AND SPECIAL CORPORATE COMMITTEE LEGAL COUNSEL  
TO THE DEBTORS AND DEBTORS-IN-POSSESSION,  
FOR ALLOWANCE OF COMPENSATION FOR SERVICES  
RENDERED AND REIMBURSEMENT OF EXPENSES INCURRED  
FOR THE PERIOD FROM OCTOBER 1, 2006 THROUGH DECEMBER 31, 2006**

TO: THE HONORABLE ROBERT D. DRAIN  
UNITED STATES BANKRUPTCY JUDGE

Covington & Burling LLP (“**Covington**”), foreign trade and special corporate  
committee legal counsel to the above-captioned debtors and debtors-in-possession (collectively,  
“**Delphi**”, the “**Company**” or the “**Debtors**”), submits this fourth interim application (the  
“**Fourth Application**”) for allowance of compensation for professional services rendered in the

amount of \$151,395.00 and reimbursement of expenses incurred in the amount of \$6,032.91 from October 1, 2006 though December 31, 2006 (the “**Fourth Application Period**”).

**PRELIMINARY STATEMENT**

1. By this Fourth Application and pursuant to sections 330 and 331 of chapter 11 of title 11 of the United States Code (the “**Bankruptcy Code**”) and Rule 2016 of the Federal Rules of Bankruptcy Procedure (the “**Bankruptcy Rules**”), Covington requests that this Court authorize: (a) interim allowance of compensation for professional services Covington rendered during the Fourth Application Period in the amount of \$151,395.00; and (b) the reimbursement of actual and necessary expenses Covington incurred in connection with the rendition of such professional services in the amount of \$6,032.91.<sup>1</sup>

2. The Fourth Application reflects the time, skill and effort Covington expended during the Fourth Application Period providing assistance to the Company as its foreign trade and special corporate committee legal counsel. Covington has: (a) advised and assisted the Company on U.S. foreign trade control matters, including the scope, applicability, licensing and compliance requirements under the International Traffic in Arms Regulations, Directorate of Defense Controls, U.S. Department of State; (b) advised a Special Committee (the “**Special Committee**”) of the Company’s Board of Directors (the “**Board**”) in connection with demands which have been or may be made by Delphi shareholders with regard to various accounting issues now under investigation and in litigation; and (c) advised the Special Committee in connection with its response to an informal inquiry by the Securities and Exchange Commission (the “**SEC**”).

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<sup>1</sup> Certain expenses incurred during the Fourth Application Period may not have been posted as of the date of this Fourth Application. Covington reserves the right to seek reimbursement for such expenses at a later date.

3. This Court has jurisdiction over this Fourth Application pursuant to 28 U.S.C. §§ 157 and 1334. Venue of these cases and this Fourth Application is proper in this district pursuant to 28 U.S.C. §§ 1408 and 1409. This matter is a core proceeding under 28 U.S.C. § 157(b)(2).

### **GENERAL BACKGROUND**

4. On October 8, 2005 (the “**Petition Date**”), Delphi and certain of its U.S. subsidiaries filed voluntary petitions in this Court for relief under chapter 11 of the Bankruptcy Code. On October 14, 2005, three additional U.S. subsidiaries of Delphi also sought relief in this Court under chapter 11 of the Bankruptcy Code. The Debtors continue to operate their businesses and manage their properties as debtors-in-possession pursuant to sections 1107(b) and 1108 of the Bankruptcy Code. This Court entered orders directing the joint administration of the Debtors’ chapter 11 cases (Docket Nos. 28 and 404).

5. On October 17, 2005, the Office of the United States Trustee appointed an official committee of unsecured creditors (the “**Creditors’ Committee**”). On March 30, 2006, the Court issued an order directing the United States Trustee to appoint an official committee of equity holders (the “**Equity Committee**”) to represent the interests of Delphi’s shareholders. No trustee or examiner has been appointed in the Debtors’ cases.

6. Interim Fee Orders. The Court has issued a number of orders governing the procedures for professionals to seek compensation from the Debtors’ estates, with which this Fourth Application complies. These orders include the First Interim Compensation Order dated November 4, 2005 (Docket No. 869), the First and Second Supplemental Orders dated March 8, 2006 and March 28, 2006 (Docket Nos. 2747 and 2986), the Joint Interest Agreement Order dated April 18, 2006 (Docket No. 3279; a copy is attached as Exhibit B), the

Third Interim Compensation Order dated May 5, 2006 (Docket No. 3630), which established the Fee Committee, the Fourth Interim Compensation Order dated July 13, 2006 (Docket No. 4545), and the Fifth Interim Compensation Order dated October 13, 2006 (Docket No. 5310). The Fee Committee issued guidelines on June 19, 2006 (the "Fee Committee Guidelines").

7. Covington's Retention. On February 17, 2006, the Debtors filed an Application for Order under 11 U.S.C. §§ 327(e) and 1107(b) and Fed. R. Bankr. P. 2014 Authorizing Employment and Retention of Covington & Burling as Foreign Trade and Special Corporate Committee Legal Counsel to Debtors (Docket No. 2424) (the "**Retention Application**"), seeking the retention of Covington *nunc pro tunc* to October 8, 2005.

8. On March 9, 2006, the Court granted the Retention Application, authorizing the employment and retention of Covington as Foreign Trade and Special Corporate Committee Legal Counsel to the Debtors (Docket No. 2769) (the "**Retention Order**").

9. Covington's Pre-Petition Claim. Before the Petition Date, Covington performed numerous services for the Debtors. As a result of these prepetition services, Covington was owed, and continues to be owed, approximately \$263,559.79. Covington has filed a proof of claim regarding this amount. Neither the compensation nor expenses requested pursuant to this Fourth Application includes any portion of this amount. See Certification Pursuant to Local Guidelines, US Trustee Guidelines and Fee Committee Guidelines for Fees and Disbursements attached as **Exhibit A**.

10. Covington's Fee Applications. Covington has previously submitted three fee applications, aggregating \$1,595,842.04 in fees and expenses, as summarized in the table below. Covington agreed with the Fee Committee to reduce the fees sought in the first three applications in the aggregate amount of \$32,157.22. On March 16, 20 and 22, 2007 the

Court issued omnibus orders granting, *inter alia*, Covington's fees and expenses in the aggregate amount of \$1,563,774.83.

Application	Date	Fees Sought	Fees Reduced	Fees Allowed	Expenses Sought	Total Allowed
First	3/31/2006	\$490,281.00	\$10,719.07	\$479,651.93	\$20,653.23	\$500,305.16
Second	7/31/2006	\$551,937.00	\$10,719.07	\$541,217.93	\$10,753.73	\$551,971.66
Third	11/30/2006	\$499,681.75	\$10,719.07	\$488,962.68	\$22,535.33	\$511,498.01
Total:		\$1,541,899.75	\$32,157.21	\$1,509,832.54	\$53,942.29	\$1,563,774.83

### **COVINGTON'S FEES AND EXPENSES**

11. Covington's services during the Fourth Application Period have been necessary and beneficial to the Debtors and the Special Committee, the Company's creditors, and other parties-in-interest. Throughout the Fourth Application Period, Covington has addressed a variety of issues requiring Covington's professionals to devote substantial time on an ongoing basis.

12. Covington has submitted timely invoices for postpetition services rendered to the Special Committee and to the Debtors for payment pursuant to the Interim Compensation Orders. No agreement or understanding exists between Covington or any other entity for the sharing of compensation to be received for services rendered in or in connection with this case.

13. Covington's personnel maintain written contemporaneous records of the time expended in rendering professional services to the Debtors and the Special Committee. A copy of the daily time records for the Fourth Application Period, broken down by matter and listing the name of the attorney or paraprofessional, the date on which the services were performed, and the amount of time spent in performing the services, is attached as **Exhibit C**.

14. Because many of the services Covington rendered during the Fourth Application Period are confidential and sensitive, Covington has filed Exhibit C to this Application under seal pursuant to the Joint Interest Agreement Order.

15. Attached as **Exhibit D** is a list of the attorneys and paraprofessionals who have worked on Delphi matters during the Fourth Application Period, the aggregate time expended by each individual during the Fourth Application Period, his or her hourly billing rate during the Fourth Application Period, and the amount of Covington's fees attributable to each individual. Additionally, included as part of Exhibit D is a list of all the matters for which services were rendered and the aggregate amount of hours and fees expended for each of those matters.

16. Covington customarily adjusts its billing rates on an annual basis, usually as of October 1, which begins its fiscal year. Pursuant to the terms of its engagement letter dated June 8, 2005 (the "**Engagement Letter**"), Covington did not increase its billing rates for representation in the Delphi proceeding on October 1, 2005, but did raise its rates on June 8, 2006. This 2006 increase in Covington's billing rates is reflected in the fees requested in this Fourth Application.

17. Covington also maintains records of all actual and necessary out-of-pocket expenses incurred in connection with the rendition of professional services. A schedule setting forth the categories of expenses and amounts for which reimbursement is requested is attached as **Exhibit E**.

### **SUMMARY OF SERVICES RENDERED**

18. The following summary highlights the principal areas to which Covington devoted substantial time and attention during the Fourth Application Period. The full extent of Covington's services is reflected in Covington's time records.

#### **Foreign Trade Control Representation**

19. Covington provided advice and assistance to the Debtors on many facets of U.S. foreign trade control laws, including compliance with export laws administered by the Departments of Commerce and State, import laws administered by the Department of State and Bureau of Customs and Border Protection, and economic sanctions programs administered by the Treasury Department.

20. Covington assisted the Debtors in reviewing certain transactions by the Debtors' foreign affiliates for compliance with U.S. foreign trade controls.

21. Covington assisted the Debtors in the development of a regulatory license application and amendments to that license, and communicated extensively with U.S. governmental agencies and the Debtors regarding this matter.

#### **Special Committee Representation**

22. In response to a demand letter issued by a Delphi shareholder, a Special Committee of the Board was formed to investigate issues now in litigation and/or under investigation, to advise the Board regarding whether there are viable claims against potential defendants in connection with these issues, and, if so, to make recommendations regarding whether it is in the Company's best interest to pursue them.

23. As counsel to the Special Committee, Covington attorneys reviewed numerous documents relating to these issues, including emails, notes, memoranda,

correspondence, presentations, contracts and accounting records. Covington attorneys conducted research regarding potential causes of action against current and former Delphi directors and officers.

24. Covington attorneys participated in numerous meetings and telephone conferences with the members of the Special Committee to provide updates on work completed, present key evidence, provide advice regarding proposed investigative steps, and receive direction from the Special Committee.

#### Informal SEC Inquiry

25. Covington was asked by the Special Committee of Delphi's Board to respond to an informal inquiry by the staff of the SEC's Enforcement Division concerning the accounting treatment that a Delphi customer accorded a transaction with a Delphi division. Covington attorneys assisted in many aspects of the Debtors' ongoing response to this inquiry.

#### Case Administration

26. During the Fourth Application Period, Covington prepared and drafted the Third Application and all supporting documents and addressed ongoing supplemental disclosure issues. Covington also responded to written inquiry from LCC about its first three fee applications and met with the Fee Committee to resolve its questions and concerns about the first three applications.

27. Throughout the progress of the Debtors' chapter 11 cases, Covington has communicated extensively with the Debtors and the Special Committee, participating in meetings and telephone conferences with representatives of the Debtors and members of the Special Committee, and exchanging email and other correspondence. These communications



were crucial in keeping the Debtors, the Special Committee and the members of the Board apprised of the status of issues of concern to them.

28. As highlighted above, Covington has provided essential services to the Debtors and the Special Committee, and these services have benefited the Debtors, the Special Committee, their creditors and other parties-in-interest in these bankruptcy cases. Covington rendered these services in an expeditious and efficient manner and in compliance with the requirements of the Bankruptcy Code.

**COVINGTON'S REQUEST FOR INTERIM COMPENSATION**

29. The allowance of interim compensation for services rendered and reimbursement of expenses incurred in bankruptcy cases is expressly provided for in section 331 of the Bankruptcy Code:

[A] debtor's attorney, or any professional person . . . may apply to the court not more than once every 120 days after an order for relief in a case under this title, or more often if the court permits, for such compensation for services rendered . . . as is provided under section 330 of this title.

11 U.S.C. § 331.

30. The First and Third Interim Compensation Orders require professionals in the Debtors' chapter 11 cases to serve monthly fee statements upon notice parties listed in those Orders,<sup>2</sup> to obtain allowance of compensation and reimbursement of 80% of fees and 100% of expenses identified in each monthly statement. Approximately every 120 days, professionals in the Debtors' chapter 11 cases serve and file with the Court an application for interim or final compensation pursuant to sections 330 and 331 of the Bankruptcy Code.

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<sup>2</sup> As modified by the Joint Interest Agreement Order.

These Interim Compensation Orders are not intended to alter the fee application requirements set forth in sections 330 and 331 of the Bankruptcy Code. See First Interim Compensation Order at ¶ 2(b).

31. Section 330(a)(1) of the Bankruptcy Code provides, in pertinent part, that a court may award to a professional person, including a debtor's attorney:

reasonable compensation for actual, necessary services rendered by  
the . . . professional person, or attorney . . . .

11 U.S.C. § 330(a)(1). The Congressional intent and policy expressed in section 330 of the Bankruptcy Code is to provide for adequate compensation to attract qualified and competent practitioners to bankruptcy cases.

32. Covington submits that its request for interim allowance of compensation in the amount of \$151,395.00 is reasonable. The services rendered by Covington, as highlighted above, were necessary to fulfill the Debtors' and the Special Committee's requests for legal counsel.

33. Covington has made, and continues to make, efforts to work with the Debtors' other counsel to ensure that there is no unnecessary duplication of work between Covington and such other firms. Covington and the other firms retained in these chapter 11 cases have clearly delineated the division of labor between them to maximize the efficient usage of their combined resources by the Debtors' estate.

34. The services rendered by Covington during the Fourth Application Period were performed diligently and efficiently. When possible, Covington delegated tasks to lower-cost junior attorneys or, for discrete matters, to attorneys with specialized expertise in the particular task at issue. While that approach may have required intra-office conferences or involved individual attorneys who spent only a few hours on the matter at hand, the net result

was enhanced cost efficiency. The average hourly rate for all attorneys and paraprofessionals for the Fourth Application Period is \$377.26.<sup>3</sup>

35. The services rendered to the Debtors by Covington during the Fourth Application Period, after writing off the time for timekeepers who billed less than three hours during the Fourth Application Period<sup>4</sup>, required an aggregate expenditure of 401.30 recorded hours of the time of attorneys and paraprofessionals. Based upon the number of hours spent and Covington's hourly billing rate established by the engagement letter dated June 8, 2005, and the increase to Covington's billing rates that became effective on June 8, 2006, the value of the recorded services rendered by Covington's attorneys and paraprofessionals is \$151,395.00. Exhibit D sets forth a list of such individuals, the aggregate amount of time expended by each and the current hourly billing rate for each. The fair and reasonable value of the services rendered by Covington to the Debtors and recorded during the Fourth Application Period is set forth in Exhibit C and summarized above.

### **DISBURSEMENTS**

36. Covington incurred actual and necessary out-of-pocket expenses during the Fourth Application Period, in connection with the rendition of the professional services described above, in the amount of \$6,032.91, as set forth in detail in Exhibit E.<sup>5</sup>

37. The disbursements for which Covington seeks reimbursement include the following:

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<sup>3</sup> This figure was calculated by dividing the total number of hours into the total fees requested.

<sup>4</sup> Other than two partners whose expertise on matters related to the Debtors' case is invaluable and necessary to Covington's representation.

<sup>5</sup> Covington's standard practice is to treat certain expenses as having been incurred when such obligations are recorded and reflected as payable in Covington's accounting system.

1. Duplicating - Charged at \$0.10 per page;
2. Telecommunications - Long-distance calls and long-distance facsimile transmissions are billed at actual cost. There is no charge for incoming facsimiles;
3. Computer Research Charges - Covington's practice is to bill clients for LEXIS and Westlaw research at actual cost;
4. Overtime Expenses - Covington's practice is to allow any attorney working later than 8:00 p.m. and any legal assistant working later than 7:30 p.m. to charge a working meal to the appropriate client. The meal charge is limited to \$20 per person. Upon occasion, the actual expense for a meal exceeded \$20, and in those cases, Covington absorbed the amount in excess of \$20 and did not bill the Debtors for that excess amount. In compliance with the Fee Committee Guidelines, these instances are noted and itemized in Exhibit E;
5. Local Car Service - Covington's practice is to allow attorneys, legal assistants and secretaries to charge car service to the appropriate client after 8:00 p.m.;
6. Delivery Services - Covington's practice is to charge postal, overnight delivery and courier services at actual cost; and
7. Overtime Word Processing Charges and Secretarial Overtime - Covington's practice is to bill clients for overtime word processing charges and secretarial overtime at actual cost, and therefore includes such charges in this Fourth Application.

**COMPLIANCE WITH LOCAL RULES, U.S. TRUSTEE GUIDELINES**  
**AND FEE COMMITTEE GUIDELINES**

38. Covington submits that this Fourth Application complies with the guidelines set forth by this Court in its Amended Guidelines for Fees and Disbursements for Professionals in the Southern District of New York Bankruptcy Cases adopted by the Court on April 19, 1995 (the "**Local Rules**"), and its administrative orders M-104 and M-150, and with the U.S. Trustee's Guidelines for Reviewing Applications for Compensation and Reimbursement of Expenses filed under 11 U.S.C. § 330 (the "**U.S. Trustee Guidelines**").

39. The Fee Committee Guidelines require applicants to submit their invoices and fee applications to Legal Cost Control, Inc., the Fee Examiner for the Fee Committee (the “**Fee Examiner**”). For the most part, Covington believes that the Fee Examiner and Fee Committee Guidelines track the U.S. Trustee Guidelines. Covington’s Fourth Application deviates from the Fee Committee Guidelines in certain very minor respects described below.

40. With the exception of Bruce Baird, a senior partner in Covington’s White Collar practice group who billed 0.80 hours during the period, Covington has written off all time for timekeepers who billed less than three hours during the Fourth Application Period, because it agrees that attorneys and other timekeepers who spend less than three hours during a three month period are likely to be transitory. Mr. Baird’s contribution, Covington submits, was of significant value to the Debtors.

41. The Fee Committee Guidelines disfavor time spent by attorneys and staff on “administrative and clerical” tasks. Although some Covington timekeepers may have engaged in tasks that appear to be clerical in nature, those tasks in fact required considerable knowledge of the Debtors’ case and skills far beyond what would be needed for rote, truly uncomplicated chores. In each case, the tasks performed, generally by paraprofessionals or junior attorneys, required judgment, training and substantive awareness of the case. They were in all cases intended to make the work more efficient.

42. Finally, the Fee Committee recommends that firms not be reimbursed for time expended in the performance of conflicts checks. As described above, during the Fourth Application Period, Covington continued to perform its supplemental conflict checks, as required by Bankruptcy Rules 2014(a) and 327(a). Bankruptcy professionals are required by statute to

perform rigorous conflicts checks of all parties-in-interest to ensure that they do not hold or represent any adverse interests, and have a continuing duty of disclosure. The consequences of failing to perform the checks with meticulous attention can be harsh for a firm. In this case, with thousands of debtor entities and many more thousands of creditors and other parties-in-interest, performing the supplemental conflicts checks has been an ongoing task, which Covington has made every effort to perform expeditiously, efficiently and economically. Covington does not bill for the hours spent by its conflicts staff searching its conflicts database, but it does bill, and expects to be reimbursed, for the time spent by paralegals and attorneys supervising the staff's work, compiling the lists of parties-in-interest whom Covington represents in unrelated matters and preparing the requisite supplemental disclosure declarations.

#### **PROCEDURE**

43. In accordance with the First Interim Compensation Order, the Third Interim Compensation Order, the Joint Interest Agreement Order, and the Court's Local Rules, notice of this Fourth Application has been provided to the 2002 notice list, and the Fourth Application with all exhibits has been served on: the Debtors, their attorneys, the United States Trustee, counsel to and Chair of the Creditor's Committee, the Fee Examiner and the members of the Fee Committee. The Fourth Application without the detailed time records has been served on the counsel to and the chair of the Equity Committee. Covington submits that given the circumstances and the notice of the relief requested herein, no other or further notice is required.

44. Because the Fourth Application presents no novel issue of law, Covington requests that the Court dispense with the requirement of Local Rule 9013-1(b) that a memorandum of law be submitted herewith.

45. No previous motion for the relief sought herein has been made to this or any other court.

**CONCLUSION**

WHEREFORE, Covington respectfully requests that this Court enter an order awarding Covington:

1. interim compensation from the Debtors for services rendered for the period from October 1, 2006 through December 31, 2006, inclusive, in the amount of \$151,395.00;
2. reimbursement of actual and necessary expenses incurred in connection with the rendition of such services, in the amount of \$6,032.91; and
3. such other and further relief as may be just and proper.

Dated: March 28, 2007

**COVINGTON & BURLING LLP**

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